

JEB BRADLEY
1ST DISTRICT, NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

October 6, 2004

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The Honorable Tommy G. Thompson
Secretary of Health and Human Services
United States Department of Health and Human Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Thompson,

I am writing to respectfully urge the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to approve a petition currently pending before the FDA that would establish the descriptive claims "excellent source," "good source," and "made with" for whole grain content under the Agency's authority to prevent false and misleading food labeling statements (Docket No. 2004P-0223/CP 1). I believe that FDA approval of this petition would be wholly consistent with the goal of working towards a healthier America.

There is a clear consensus that Americans can improve their diet by eating more foods that contain whole grains. Further, there are studies that indicate that consumers are eager for messages about nutrition and health and believe whole grains contain important nutritional qualities. Notwithstanding this, actual consumption of whole grains is well below the recommended daily intake. I believe that this is due in part because consumers remain uncertain as to what actually constitutes a "whole grain" product. I believe that this petition would go a long way towards clearing up that confusion and, most likely, will encourage consumption of more whole grain foods.

Secretary Thompson, I appreciate all of the efforts of your Department as you work toward a healthier America. Action on this petition would be a strong step in that direction. I look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jeb Bradley
Member of Congress

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